

Reddie & Grose

Chartered Patent Agents
European Patent Attorneys
Trade Mark Agents

16 Theobalds Road
London WC1X 8PL

Telephone 071-242 0901
Fax 071-242 3290
Fax 071-242 0286
Telex 25445
DX 280

Fish & Neave,
875 Third Avenue,
New York,
N.Y. 10022-6250,
United States of America

John H. Bass B.Sc.
P. Antony Smith M.A.
F.A.B. Valentine M.A.
Richard C. Abnett M.A.
Paul A. Brereton M.A.
Keith E. Geering B.A.
Nicholas S. Marlow B.Sc.
Linda J. Harland B.Sc.
J.M. Davies D.Phil
P.A.D. Lloyd B.Sc.

D.S. Jackson B.Sc.
J.J. Day B.Sc.

Consultant
David A. Pears M.A.

COPY

JHB/JB/30775
5th March 1991

Attention: Denise L. Loring, Esq

RECEIVED
PHILIP MORRIS MANAGEMENT CORP
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Dear Sirs,

MAR 12 1991

Pakistan Patent Application No. 500/89
Your Ref: PM 1326
Our File: 30775

NOTED filow

I enclose a copy of an official action just received on this case. The normal period for putting this application in order for allowance will expire on 6th June 1991.

No references are cited but there are substantial formal objections.

1. This objection follows British practice under the old statute, according to which expressions of purpose were held to have little or no definitive value. Following this practice, claim 1, and still more claim 4, might be read as simple claims to a metal carbide. Nevertheless, our Associates suggest that claim 1 might be less objectionable if worded as follows:

"A heat source for a smoking article formed from materials having a substantial metal carbide content".

Some of the other claims must be free from this objection, for example claim 3 specifying additional materials and claim 7 and dependent claims specifying a particular shape. If you wish to maintain claims to the heat source in isolation, please let us have your proposals for response.

2. This seems to require the limitation of claim 1 to specific carbides, perhaps those of claim 2. Our Associates believe this objection to be unjustified, and I agree.

3. Our Associates believe the Examiner has some ground for objection here, but the claim is discussed under 1. above.

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4. and 5. We can supply these U.S. patents. We are not aware of Pakistani equivalents except in the case of Banerjee et al and some of the Europeans.

6. This is an objection to the broadening wording at the end of the specification. Our Associates offered to delete the offending wording.

7.8. and 9. Our Associates can deal with these.

I enclose a copy of claims on file in Pakistan. These consist of claims 1 to 19 as originally sent by your firm for filing, to which three additional claims to a smoking article including the heat source were added in view of their potential usefulness.

Yours faithfully,

J. H. Bass

c.c. Beverly A. Monroe (Philip Morris Management Corp.) w/e

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